

# The Battle of Droop Mountain

By J. W. Benjamin

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ALTHOUGH millions of words have been written on that ever-intriguing subject, the American Civil War—or The War Between the States, for I live in Lewisburg—and undoubtedly millions more will be written, practically none of these essays, histories, and novels has dealt at any length with the campaigns in West Virginia.

The fact is that West Virginia was one of the most important strategic prizes in the conflict, both because of its salt supplies which had a direct bearing on the Kanawha Valley campaign and because of its geographical location. West Virginia was a barrier between the North and the South that the Union felt it must hold at all hazards.

And of all the marching, counter-marching, and fighting in West Virginia, the most important engagement of all was the Battle of Droop Mountain, fought 95 years ago.

Gen. W. W. Averill, a West Pointer who had proved his worth in subduing the Kiowa nation, was in command of some 5,000 Union troops in West Virginia. Like the Confederacy's "Stonewall" Jackson, Averill could move his troops faster than any other commander on his side of the conflict. He mounted his infantrymen on horses and moved up and down either side of the Allegheny, using the long valleys much as Jackson used the passes and valleys of the Shenandoah's Blue Ridge.

In the first week of November, 1863, Gen. Kelly, in command of the Department of West Virginia, ordered Gen. Averill at Beverly and Gen. Scammon at Charleston to apply the pinchers, bending armies to meet at Lewisburg. Averill marched down the Seneca Trail, now U. S. 219, while Scammon sent Gen. Duffie up the Midland Trail, now U. S. 60. Averill planned to meet Duffie at 2 p. m. Saturday, Nov. 7.

It was a well timed maneuver. Duffie had about 120 miles to come up from Kanawha. Averill had about 110 miles to go. He reached Lewisburg on the dot, found Duffie had been there since 10 a. m. He also found the Confederates had gotten there even earlier, and had gone on towards Union, leaving a timber blockade in the road to give them more time to get away. After all, the boys in gray had a right to be tired. Most of them had marched 50 miles over mountain roads in 42 hours, and had used up some 7 hours fighting the Battle of Droop Mountain.

And in between his own start and his arrival in Lewisburg, Averill had rather decisively defeated a brave Confederate leader, Gen. John Echols, on the high land where the traveler today may stop at Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park.

IN HUNTERSVILLE, on Wednesday at noon, Averill learned that Col. W. P. Thompson with the 19th Virginia Cavalry was at Marlins Bottom, now called Marlinton, and gave orders to cut them off. But Thompson left hurriedly, cut a barricade of trees across the road, and joined up with Confederate troops in the Little Levels where he turned and stopped the Union advance.

On Thursday, Averill did not attack because he was 34 miles from Lewisburg and he was afraid if he drove his enemy that day they would get to Lewisburg and escape before Duffie could come up from Kanawha.

So Averill marched from Mill Point and put his troops in position before sunup Nov. 6. They occupied a full half circle to the north of the battlefield.

About 9 a. m. the Confederate cheering and loud band music announced the arrival of Maj. Gen. Echols, making the forces equal with the Confederates in a commanding position on the mountain and the Union forces at a seeming disadvantage. Learning that Federal troops were advancing from Charleston, Echols the day before had sent one regiment west to hold Duffie and had marched his men 14 miles between 9 a. m. and 9 p. m., when they had gone into camp at Spring Creek. Learning from a courier that the Federal force was larger than expected, Echols had started his men off again at 2 a. m. to cover the last 14 miles in only 7 hours.

The late Andrew Price, in his study of the

battle, had the Confederate forces stationed as follows: "On the river road to Greenbrier: Edgar's Battalion. On the farmland on the brow of the mountain where the battle was fought: 22nd Virginia Cavalry, Col. Geo. Patton; 19th Virginia Cavalry, Col. W. P. Thompson; 20th Virginia Cavalry, Col. W. W. Arnett; 14th Virginia Cavalry, Col. James Cochran; Derrick's Battalion; (Col. W. L.) Jackson's Batteries. On the Lobelia-Jacox road: Nobody."

That the Confederate left was unaccountably unguarded has long been a part of the local historical tradition. Echols had craftily arranged things so Averill might bypass him and go on down the Greenbrier River, but the Union commander had no idea of by-passing anybody. The failure to guard adequately the back way into the battlefield has never been explained. The only possible reason must have been that there seemed no possibility any troops could get in that way.

However, a careful study of official records on both sides does indicate the Confederate commander did not entirely overlook that approach from the west. In fact, a Confederate soldier, lying in the woods watching for Federal troops to advance, saw a Union soldier coming from the west show his face over a rail fence. The advancing man became the first casualty at the Battle of Droop Mountain.

COL. AUGUSTUS MOOR, of the 26th Ohio regiment, and Col. T. M. Harris, of the 10th West Virginia, were the commanding officers whose troops hit the left flank of the Confederates. Moor was still in Hillsboro at 9 a. m. and the Confederates on the mountain top were looking down his throat. Ordered to go around them, he had his men trail rifles, take advantage of every tangled thicket, hollow, copse, rail fence, and rock to move Indian-like to the northwest. He reached the Viney Mountain and marched for an hour due south. It is possible he did not go all the way to Lobelia, but cut across the mountain crest, Moor said later he had a native guide, but if there was such a man of course he kept mighty quiet about it.

Anyway, The Union forces came to that rail fence, and the Confederates poured in a devastating fire from 25 to 35 yards away. This was the critical moment for the attack. The men were commanded to lie down.

Col. Harris had taken his regiment by a shorter route. Now he joined Moor's forces at a spot near what he called the Dar Place, after Abraham Dar, a pioneer.

The battle probably covered about a mile of running-fight on level, thickly wooded land. You might think of the Union forces as having started from the handle of an inverted dishpan. By now they had moved around to the right, up and across the back portion of the flat "top" surface of the pan, and were now fighting on even terms.

Records show Capt. Marshall's forces went

in to stop the advance. Then Col. Thompson and more companies of the same regiment entered the woods, then the Twenty-third Virginia Battalion was sent to the left. Next, Col. Gibson with four companies of the Fourteenth Virginia Cavalry went into that bloody ground.

Price wrote: "And finally a picked body of troops from three companies of the Twenty-second, including Capt. Jim McNeill's Nicholas Blues, were placed under Capt. John K. Thompson and they plunged into the fatal woods and by a desperate effort actually stopped the advance and threw back the front, but the next wave went over them and they (the Union) got to the pike in time to see the Confederate army streaming out towards Lewisburg and fought a stern chase battle with them for hours."

The Ohio troops, with one company of the 14th Pennsylvania, about 1,175 men in all, made this flanking movement. They reached the woods, firing as they came, at 1:45 p. m. Some went still further around the enemy on an old road which intersected the Lobelia-Jacox road and thus added to the dangers of the holding forces.

"... the rifle balls fell everywhere. It is said to have been one of the most sudden and most fearful fires that men were ever subject to."

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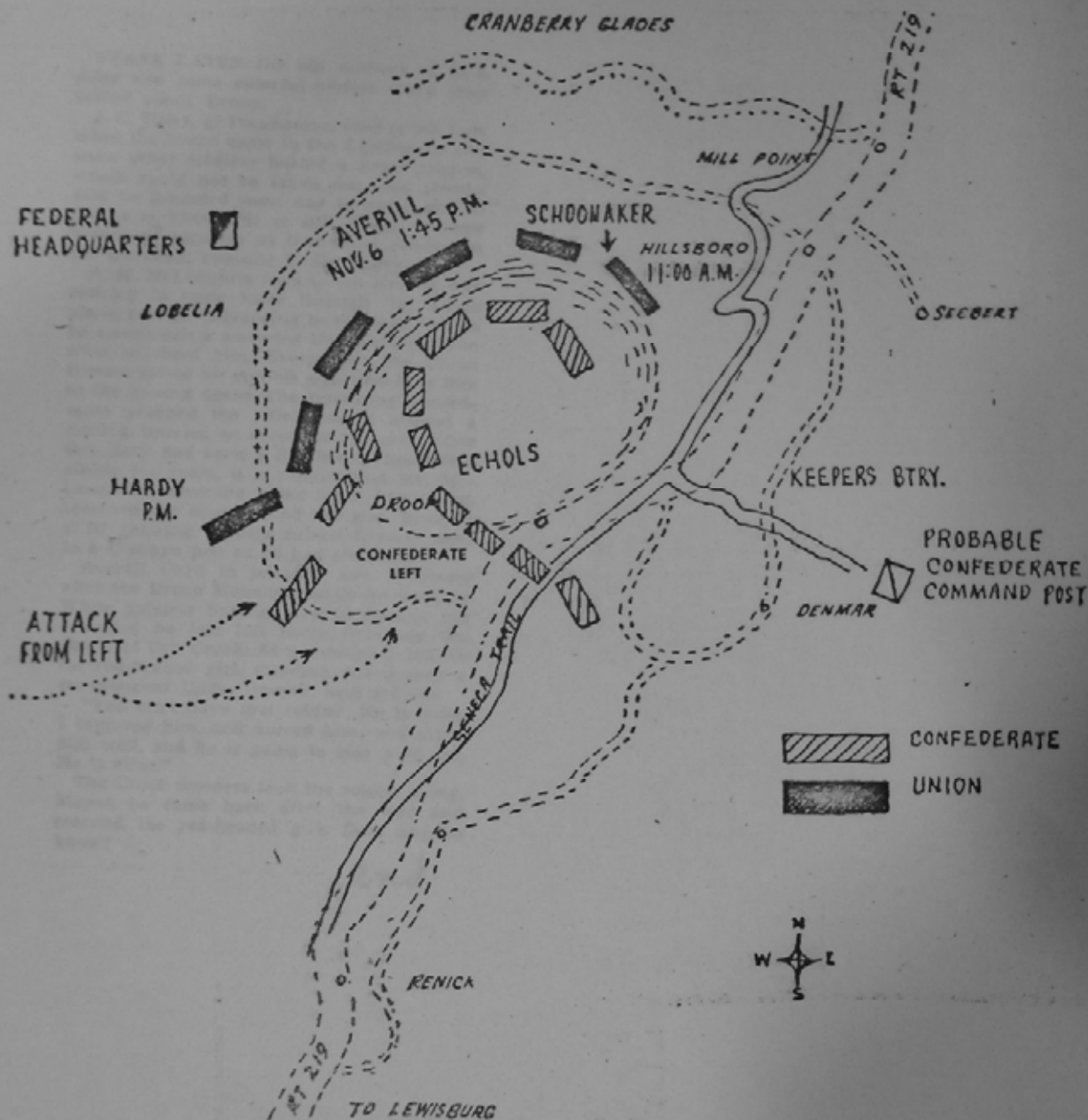
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NOW AS SOON as Averell heard his flanking party firing, he immediately moved three regiments obliquely up the mountain, on foot. Drive to the foot of Droop, going north; get out, and walk back up the road. To make your experiment more realistic, carry a heavy 19th century rifle, and have some men up on top throwing rocks and shooting blanks at you. Only in '63 they weren't using blanks.

These troops came out on top of Droop Mountain on the left of the flanking party and together the Union forces attacked the Confederate breastworks.

Then it was the Confederates were forced to beat a hasty retreat. Even then the crafty Averell tried to hold back the pursuit,

knowing Duffie was on his way to spring the trap in Lewisburg, but as has been recorded earlier in this account the losers of that battle did get through Lewisburg and away towards Union and Dublin, beating the arrival of Duffie by only a few minutes and actually losing a few stragglers as prisoners to him.

Averell had been defeated or had fought to a draw, depending on the way you look at it, at White Sulphur Springs the summer before. However, from the Droop Mountain battle on to the end of his command, he made a brilliant record until his dismissal by Sheridan in September, 1864.

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YEARS LATER the old soldiers of both sides told some colorful stories when they talked about Droop.

J. C. Wiley, of Pocahontas, used to tell how when the break came in the fighting he and some other soldiers buried a brass cannon, which could not be taken out, and always said he intended some day to dig it up. So far as is known, it is still there—perhaps hidden as securely as that brass cannon in the mountain opposite Cedar Grove.

A. M. McLaughlin used to tell how he was retiring in some haste through the woods alone, sort of "advancing to the rear," when he came upon a wounded Union soldier who tried to shoot him. Every time the Union trooper raised his gun his weakness bore him to the ground again. The retreating Confederate grabbed the rifle, bent it around a sapling, hurried on about his business. After this story had been a Pocahontas household classic for years, it is related that Mr. McLaughlin, returning home from Lewisburg, searched the place, found the gun, brought it in showing a rusty ruined firearm bent to a U-shape just as he had claimed.

Averell liked to tell this one. It seems after the Droop Mountain battle he went by White Sulphur Springs way to recover the wounded he had left there following the Battle of Dry Creek. At one house a beautiful red-headed girl, standing guard over a convalescent Union trooper, said grimly:

"You can't have that soldier. He is mine. I captured him, and nursed him, and made him well, and he is going to stay with me. He is mine!"

The Union troopers took the soldier along. Maybe he came back after the war and married the red-headed girl. Does anyone know?

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Lant Rader Slaven

# 94th Anniversary Of Droop Battle Today

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Ninety-four years ago today there was a lot of noise on Droop Mountain up there in Pocahontas County. Reason for all this was the Civil War battle that took place on Droop Mountain Friday, Nov., 6, 1863.



At that time the only territory held by the Confederates in West Virginia was the Greenbrier Valley. That region is the lush land drained by the Greenbrier River, the long-

est stream entirely within the state. That stream is right on to 180 miles long, with Elk River being the close runner-up for being the longest river in West Virginia. Greenbrier Valley was watched over by the Confederate brigade that was under the direct command of Brig. Gen. John Echols.

As long as Echols could hold this valley it was felt that western Virginia was safe from invasion by Federal forces. In western Virginia were the principal iron, lead, and salt petre mines of the Confederacy and it was necessary to hold those invaluable mineral deposits at all costs. Then, too, while Echols' brigade was at large it posed a threat to the all-important B & O Railroad that crossed West Virginia and supplied the Union with its war needs. In other words the brigade of Echols was a thorn in the flesh of the federal forces.

**TO DISPOSE OF** Echols' brigade the War Department at Washington organized what was known as the Fourth Separate Brigade, a command of possibly 3,000 troops. On May 16, 1863, Brig. Gen. William W. Averill, (West Point, Class of 1855) was given this command. He was to rid the region of eastern West Virginia of partisan rangers, Confederate guerrillas, and Echols' First Brigade.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 1863, found Av-

erill at Beverly. After the manner of warriors of old time in beginning military campaigns on Sunday, Averill started out that day to capture or destroy the field force under Echols and his subordinates. Though there were smaller units in Averill's command his main force consisted of the 28th Ohio, under command of Col. August Moor; the 14th Pennsylvania; the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 10th Regiments of West Virginia Mounted Infantry; and Battery B of West Virginia Light Artillery. There was also the 3rd Independent Company of Ohio Cavalry.

Averill was a restless, capable, and aggressive officer. When he started from Beverly there also started from Charleston a strong Union cavalry detachment out of the Third Division then stationed at the mouth of Elk River. That detachment was commanded by Brig. Gen. A. N. Duffie of Gen. E. P. Scammon's Third Division.

Duffie and Averill were to join forces at Lewisburg in a pincers movement and thus capture certain elements of Echols' Brigade which were known to be operating in the vicinity of Mill Point. Particularly were Averill and Duffie out to surround and capture or destroy Col. William L. Jackson's 19th Virginia Cavalry Regiment. This was in the first week of November, 1863, and it was getting cold.

**ECHOLS' FIRST** Brigade included Col. W. L. Jackson's 19th Virginia Cavalry; the 22nd Virginia Infantry Regiment, commanded by Maj. Robert A. Bailey; the 23rd Battalion, Virginia Infantry, commanded by Maj. William Blessing; Col. George S. Patton—famous as the progenitor of Gen. George S. ("Blood and Guts") Patton of World War II distinction—who commanded Echols' Brigade during the Battle of Droop Mountain; the 20th Virginia Cavalry, commanded by Col. W. Wiley Arnett during Droop Mountain battle; and a few smaller units.

Echols went into the Droop Mountain action with something like 1,700 effectives while the men

of Averill exceeded the Confederate force in men and material. Such artillery as Echols had was Chapman's Battery, consisting of four pieces, and a battery of two field guns under direction of Captain Jackson. In the battle Maj. William McLaughlin commanded the Confederate artillery.

After advance units of Averill's men reached Mill Point and vicinity, the force under Colonel Jackson withdrew to the summit of Droop Mountain where preparation had been made for a stand. Echols dispatched a part of his small army to guard the approaches to the Kanawha Valley. This force was the 16th Virginia Cavalry of Jenkins' Brigade and was commanded by Col. Milton J. Ferguson and was deployed at Bunker's Mill which was five miles west of Lewisburg. Ferguson was to contest Duffie's advance and fight off any federals who might creep in from Nicholas County roads.

**THE MAIN FORCE** of Averill spent the night of Nov. 5, 1863, in bivouac at Hillsboro on what they knew as the lands of the Little Levels.

Attack was made on the Confederate position at 10 a. m. on the morning of Nov. 6. Averill ordered the 14th Pennsylvania, and Keeper's battery to make a demonstration on the Confederate right while 1,175 men of the 28th Ohio, led by Col. Moor, made a forced march of nine miles to get in behind the Confederates and attack them in the rear and on their left. Then simultaneously with Moor's attack, Averill's 2nd, 3rd, and 10th West Virginia Regiments were dismounted and made an attack on the Confederate center.

This strategy accomplished the defeat of the Confederates and they began their retreat to Lewisburg and into Monroe County at 4 p. m. that day.

In this battle the loss of the Confederates in killed, wounded, and missing, was placed by Echols at 275 men. Some two hundred of his missing men showed up later.

In Averill's army there were 30



**WHEN HE WAS 30** years old Daniel A. Stofer moved to Pocahontas. He hailed from Augusta Co., Va., where he was born at

Middlebrook on May 5, 1821. He signed up for service in the War with Mexico and served under Gen. Zachary ("Old Rough and Ready") Taylor, destined to become our 12th President. Stofer volunteered in 1846 for The Mexican War service.

When the Civil War broke out he volunteered in the cause of his native state of Virginia. Two of his brothers joined the C.S.A. army, too. One never returned. Daniel A. Stofer was at the right place at the right time and soon was commissioned a captain.

This intrepid soldier received five separate wounds in one lone skirmish, all five wounds being inflicted in less than one single minute! One wound was in the face, two were in his breast, and two were in his left leg. Where he was struck in the left leg his thigh bone was broken in two different places. One of the two balls that entered his breast was cut out close to his spine, while the other came out under his right arm. One ball remained in his leg. Though the wounds this brave soldier received were quick to heal on the surface of his body, they formed abscesses inwardly. Great was his pain during the year he was confined in order to recover. Five operations he underwent in the effort to get back on his feet.

These wounds incapacitated him for service during the last two

years of the war. He was a lawyer of  
Huntersville. being a lawyer of  
sorts, Stofer served Pocahontas  
County a number of terms as  
prosecuting attorney.

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**ANOTHER REBEL SOLDIER**  
of Pocahontas was Charles Woods  
Beard. He was born on Locust  
Creek, Sept. 6, 1827. Though he had  
married Elizabeth Jeannette Per-  
kins of Anthonys Creek on Aug.  
5, 1858, he went away to serve the  
Confederacy in the Civil War. He  
volunteered in 1861. He served  
with the 19th Virginia Cavalry  
and was wounded in the shoulder  
at Bunker Hill near Winchester.  
His wound did not incapacitate  
him long and he was back in the  
saddle again and fought until the  
Confederate Army was disbanded.  
His father, Josiah Beard, was the  
first Clerk of Pocahontas County.  
More Pocahontas if there's another  
day.

struggle. Once  
a Yankee sabre.

After 1870 Apperson took up his residence in Pocahontas and became a merchant. He was one of the early postmasters at what is now Marlinton. He was an exemplary citizen and raised a nice family. Some of his descendants may be still living up there to this day.

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**JOHN GAY** lived in Edray District. Two of his sons, Samuel and Levi Gay, served in the Confederate Army. Samuel M. Gay was born May 29, 1835. He was wounded in the battle at Strasburg, Va. Levi Gay was born Dec. 22, 1840. He signed up as a volunteer in the Confederate cause. He was wounded in the fierce battle at Spottsylvania Court House. Twelve years after Appomatox, Levi Gay was elected sheriff of Pocahontas County.

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# Flashes of America

*By Colonel William H.*

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## THE BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN

One day as you go bowling along over the Seneca Trail (Route 219) enjoying the scenic beauties of West Virginia, you will come to a roadside marker, about 30 miles north of Lewisburg, which informs you that you are nearing "Droop Mountain Battlefield." A little further on you will see the massive rustic portals, constructed by the State Conservation Commission and the CCC boys, which mark the entrances to this historic spot—a place where brothers crossed swords in a mighty conflict for a cause in which each one of them believed.

Now, if you read on, it looks like you are in for a brief history lesson—a thing which you may dread, but which will stand you in good stead when you visit this hallowed ground, direct your mind back over a space of 73 years, and try to visualize what happened here.

The year 1863 was an important one in the history of this State.

...the many of states in their own  
right.

### **The Confederate Forces**

At that time there was a Confederate force composed largely of Virginia Cavalry with some artillery, and numbering about 4,000 men, under the command of General John Echols, which was based on Lewisburg and extended far up the Greenbrier Valley towards Durbin. They formed a sort of outpost designed to protect Virginia from a Federal attack from the west. They lived on the country and found good pickings for man and beast from the rich bluegrass region.

### **The Federal Forces**

A small Federal force under command of General William W. Averell

designed to protect Virginia from a Federal attack from the west. They lived on the country and found good pickings for man and beast from the rich bluegrass region.

### **The Federal Forces**

A small Federal force under command of General William W. Averell and based on Elkins, opposed the Confederates. Their mission was to protect the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, the main Federal line of rail communication from east to west. They were not of sufficient strength to undertake offensive operations against the Confederates and had to content themselves to play the role of an observation force.

On the Kanawha River at the mouth of Gauley there was another small force of Federals under the command of General A. N. Duffie, with the mission of preventing a Confederate movement down the Kanawha toward the Ohio River.

Following General Lee's 1863 invasion of the north, which ended in disaster at Gettysburg, Averell's command was reinforced and he was ordered to drive the Confederates out of the Greenbrier Valley. These reinforcements brought his strength up to about 5,000 men, which gave him a small superiority in numbers. General Averell requisitioned horses from the nearby farms in the Tygarts Valley country and mounted much of his infantry, thus making his command about of equal mobility with that of his opponents.

### **Preliminary Operations**

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### **Preliminary Operations**

General Averell ordered General Duffie to march from Gauley Bridge to Lewisburg so as to arrive there on the afternoon of November 7th. With his own command he marched south, leaving Beverly on November 1st, and drove back the Confederate patrols that occupied the northern reaches of the valley.

When he learned that Averell was marching down the valley, General Echols proceeded to Droop Mountain with his main body, where he took up



OP a defensive position with the idea of providing a rallying point for his advanced troops which were being driven back by the Federals, there to make a stand and stop the further advance of Averell. A line of breastworks and gun positions was constructed across the main road, which we now know as the "Seneca Trail" (Route 219) where it crosses the mountain.

by Apparently General Echols had learned of the approach of General Duffie's force coming east from Gauley Bridge but left no considerable force at Lewisburg to oppose him.

ich Averell's main body arrived in the vicinity of Hillsboro on the evening of November 4th. They established their outposts close up to the foot of Droop Mountain and started immediately with their reconnoissance of the Confederate position. The entire day of November 5th was consumed in this reconnoissance, which developed the fact that the position was too strong to be taken by direct assault. There was a lot of skirmishing during the day and that evening General Averell decided upon his plan of battle. In the meantime General Duffie was approaching Lewisburg from the west.

### The Battle

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### **The Battle**

Early on the morning of November 6th, 1863, General Averell dispatched a force of about 1,100 men composed of the 28th Ohio Infantry and the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry to march west and south on the Lobelia-Jacox road, a detour of about nine miles, to attack the left flank and rear of the Confederate position on Droop Mountain. He also sent a small detachment out to demonstrate against the right flank of the Confederate position, attract attention from the main flanking force to the west. With the remainder of his force General Averell made a strong demonstration along the front of the Confederate position.

The Union troops had forced four men who lived at Hillsboro to guide them through the woods. The men were in sympathy with the Confederates and immediately took the wrong route, leading the Union forces several miles out of the direct line. When this mistake was discovered by the commanding officer of the Union forces he halted his command and sent out scouts to locate the roadway. One of the prisoners escaped and made his way to the Confederate lines and notified the Southern troops of the im-

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out scouts to locate the roadway. One of the prisoners escaped and made his way to the Confederate lines and notified the Southern troops of the impending attack from the flank. The Confederates attempted to change their lines but were attacked before this could be completed. One witness of the battle states, "If the Southern troops had been able to form, the battle would have been a victory for them."

At 1:45 p.m., just when the skirmishing along the front was at its height, the Federal right flanking detachment broke in on the left flank and rear of the Confederate position. Averell pushed forward his assault up the mountain on the front and the left flanking detachment closed in. Echols threw in part of his reserves to stem the tide and for a short period of time there was some desperate fighting on top of the mountain.

Seeing that the Federal right flank force was closing in on his rear in an endeavor to gain the road to Lewisburg, Echols sent in the last of his reserves and all of the troops he could withdraw from the main position to counter this move. He succeeded in doing so and managed to withdraw his whole command and get it on the road to Lewisburg. By four o'clock in the afternoon his troops were on the road in more or less orderly formation and



which covered the retreat. His rear guard passed through Lewisburg at about 10:00 o'clock on the forenoon of November 7th, just as Duffie's advance guard reached the western entrance of the town.

Averell did not push the pursuit too vigorously because he thought that Duffie would be able to cut off the Confederates at Lewisburg. But by marching all night and the fact that his mounts were rested and fresh. Echols was able to save practically his entire command to fight another day.

The Confederates continued their retreat on down through Union and crossed over into Virginia at Peters-town.

### Decisive Battle

The Battle of Droop Mountain was a decisive battle in that it expelled the Confederates from that section of West Virginia and from then on until the end of the War Between the States West Virginia was Federal territory.

In his report of the battle, General Echols states: "My artillery and trains were brought safely through with the exception of one brass howitzer belonging to Chapman's battery, which broke down completely during the retreat and had to be left, thus offering the



can boast." The cannon is supposed to have been buried in the swamp on Droop Mountain, and although diligent search has been made it has not yet been found. It is to be hoped that it will be located in due time.

In the course of the conflict Colonel James Cochran, commander of the 14th Virginia cavalry, was surrounded by a squad of Union soldiers and apparently doomed to capture. By some means, however, he managed an escape. Later, in relating the story, he was asked why, under the circumstances, he did not surrender. Colonel Cochran replied: "If they had said 'Colonel, surrender,' I would have done so. But they said, 'Stop, you blankety-blank red-headed son of a gun,' and I would not accommodate any man who used such language to me."

The Federal troops engaged numbered 4,700 and suffered a loss of 130 casualties. The Confederates had 3,950 engaged and their losses were about 400 men.

### **Troops Engaged**

On the Federal side the organizations were the 28th Ohio Infantry, Col. A. Moor; 10th West Virginia In-

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at gaged were the 22nd Virginia Infantry,  
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l- Thompson; 20th Virginia Cavalry, Col.  
l- W. W. Arnett; 14th Virginia Cavalry,  
Col. James Cochran; 16th Virginia  
- Cavalry, Col. Ferguson, and an artillery  
d detachment of two battalions and two  
- batteries.

### Restoration of Battlefield

In 1928 the West Virginia Game, Fish and Forestry Commission acquired the site of the Battle of Droop Mountain. Last year the State Conservation Commission, headed by Major H. W. Shawhan, took over the site and secured 140 acres of additional land. For more than 14 months Company 2598, OCO, under command of Captain E. R. Howerly and directed by the efficient technical service at Camp Price, has been engaged in the task of restoring the battlefield to its war time aspect and transforming it into a public park, which the people of West Virginia and visitors to the State may have the priv-



he which the people of West Virginia and  
ey visitors to the State may have the priv-  
ed ilege of enjoying on their motor trips  
on through that section of the country. A  
nt map of the battlefield has been pre-  
et pared and is available to visitors at  
it Droop Mountain. The gun emplace-  
ments, trenches and breastworks are  
el to be restored and points of interest  
h are to be marked permanently.

a The public is cordially invited to  
y visit the battlefield of Droop Moun-  
s. tain, with a confidence that they will  
- there find something that will interest  
d them. It is to be hoped that this Flash  
l of History will have served the pur-  
- pose of inducing them to do so.

Mamma said the  
shepherd people  
heard the cannon  
of this battle.